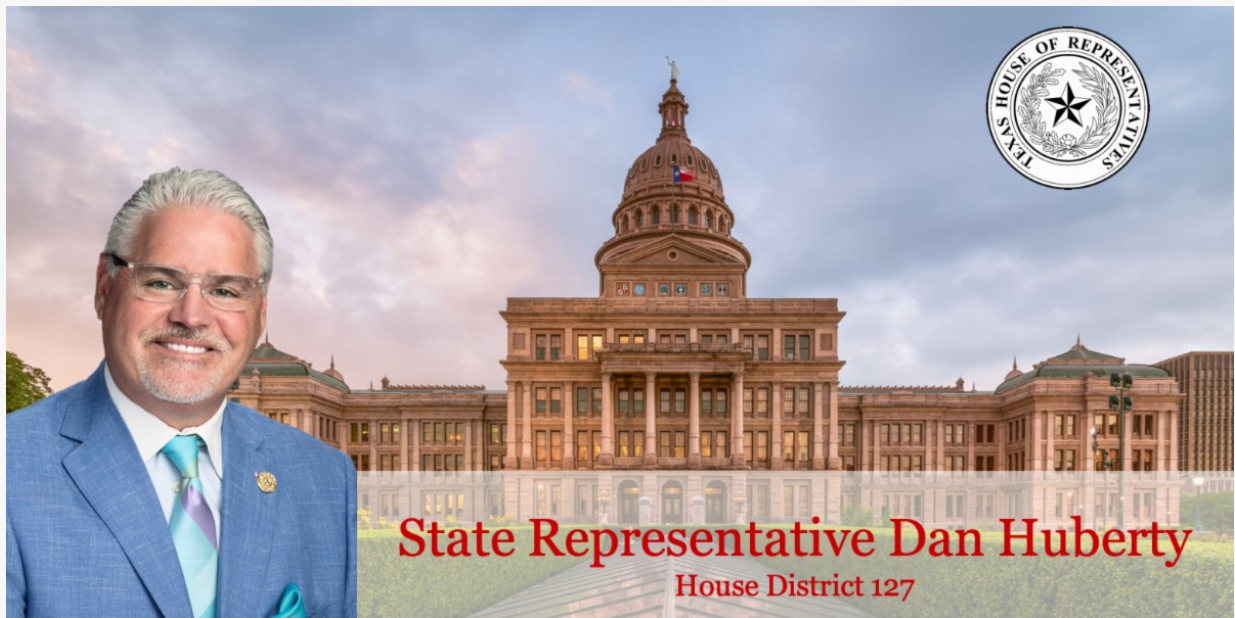


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March 19, 2021

Thank you for subscribing to my weekly newsletter. Below you will find important federal, state, and local updates from the last week curated for you in one place.

This week, I presented three bills in committee hearings that I hope will be important updates to our legal and educational systems. Below, please find a short summary of each bill and a link to the page where you can learn more about each bill.

I was also very excited to have my family visit me in Austin this week during their spring breaks. We got to spend some much-needed time together, and I hope that all of you enjoyed your spring breaks, as well.

Should you have any questions about the information below, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please utilize email communication with our office during this time, via the email contact information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Sincerely,



87th Legislative Session

Bill Spotlight: HB 900, HB 1428 & HB 1603

[HB 900](#) - Relating to the liability of a landlord for damages resulting from the execution of a writ of possession in an eviction suit

Currently, landlords can be held liable if after a tenant has been evicted, that tenant's belongings are lost, stolen, or damaged in between their removal from the property and recovery by the tenant. Landlords can be held liable, despite holding no fault for the damage to the belongings. Our office has received numerous constituent concerns from landlords in our district regarding their potential liability, and we hope this bill will serve as a potential remedy for this issue.

[HB 1428](#) - Relating to procurement by a political subdivision of a contingent fee contract for legal services

This bill is designed to remedy unintended consequences of a bill passed during the 86th Legislative Session. That bill was designed to have the Texas Attorney General review most contingency fee contracts, but the language had some loopholes, so we proposed HB 1428 in order to expand the purview of the AG's office over these contracts.

[HB 1603](#) - Relating to the use of individual graduation committees and other alternative methods to satisfy certain public high school graduation requirements.

In the 84th Legislative Session, the legislature allowed for the creation of individual graduation committees (IGCs) to evaluate students for graduation who failed to pass one or more of their end-of-course exams. IGCs have been widely supported in public schools by administrators, parents, and students alike. They consider the entirety of a student's work, attempting to prevent qualified students from being held back because of a technicality. This bill simply removes the expiration date for IGCs, attempting to make them a permanent part of our education process.

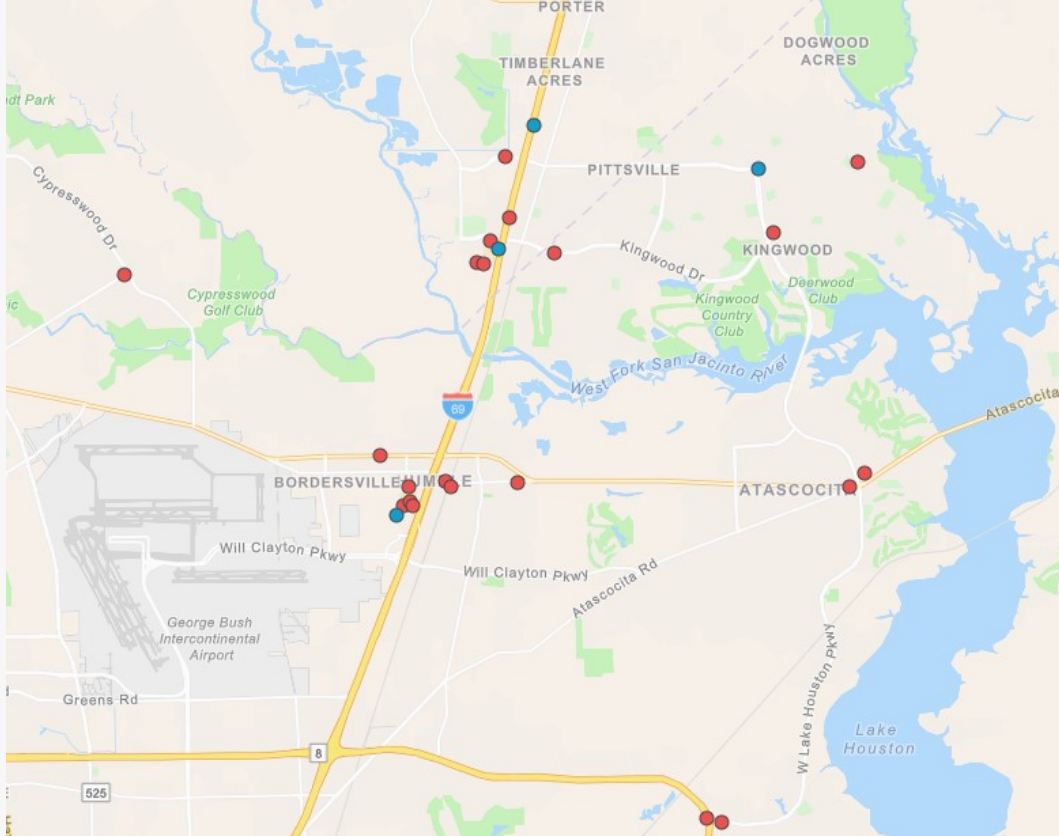
For a comprehensive list of Representative Huberty's legislative agenda, click [here](#)

Bill Status Hotline

The Legislative Reference Library [introduced](#) a bill status hotline: **877-824-7038** (toll-free in Texas)

State Updates

COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Map



Click the image to view an interactive map

If you would like to register for a COVID-19 vaccine, please click [here](#).

Statewide COVID Update

DSHS 7-DAY COVID DASHBOARD

As of March 12, 2021

CASES

2,338,763

+ 24,576

OVER PAST 7 DAYS

+ 1.06%

OVER PAST 7 DAYS

CURRENT COVID-CONFIRMED PATIENTS IN THE HOSPITAL

4,229

TOTAL

-14.06%

OVER PAST 7 DAYS

Texas GLO Post Amendment 8 to Hurricane Harvey State Action Plan for Public Comment

The Texas General Land Office (GLO) posted Amendment 8 to the State Action Plan for \$5.676 billion in Community Development Block Grants for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) for a federally required 30-day public comment period.



The amendment includes the following changes:

- Reinstates more than \$835 million for the City of Houston's administration of the Homeowner Assistance (limited), Single Family Development, Multifamily Rental, Small Rental, Homebuyer Assistance, Buyout, Public Services and Economic Revitalization Programs.
- Reallocates Harris County administered project delivery funds to the county's housing and infrastructure programs.
- Increases the Harris County administered Homeowner Reimbursement Program by more than \$14 million.

Action Plan Amendment 8 is available for review [here](#). All comments should be submitted to cdr@recovery.texas.gov by 5:00 p.m. on April 14, 2021, to be considered. Per federal requirements, the GLO must respond to public comments before the amendment can be sent to HUD for its 45-day final approval.

Public input sought on Texas Hunting Regulation Proposals for 2021-2022

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) is now taking public comment on proposed changes to the 2021-2022 Statewide Hunting and Migratory Game Bird Proclamations. Details on the proposed regulation changes can be found [here](#) or on the [public comment page](#) of the TPWD.

To make comments: click [here](#), then click on the "comment" link for the action you wish to comment on.

The public is encouraged to provide comment on the proposed regulation changes, and input will be considered before any action is taken by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission at its March 25 public hearing.

Public comment on the technical guidelines for regional flood planning



The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is seeking public comment on the [technical guidelines for regional flood planning](#). The period for public comment will end on **April 1, 2021**.

The 15 regional flood planning groups are responsible for developing Texas' first regional flood plans by January 2023, which will culminate in the state's first-ever state flood plan. The technical guidelines will support and guide the implementation of the regional flood planning rules 31 Texas Administrative Code Chapters 361 and 362 that were adopted last year. The technical guidelines, in addition to the [Draft Scope of Work](#) in each regional flood planning group grant contract, provide much of the nuts and bolts explanation of the regional flood planning process and work effort.

We are seeking feedback on the technical guidelines from all interested stakeholders to help fine tune the details and assumptions that will guide the rest of this planning cycle. The technical guidelines are available on our [1st Planning Cycle Documents \(2020-2023\) webpage](#).

The technical guidelines for regional flood planning have various components, including the following key components:

1. **Exhibit C: Technical Guidelines for Regional Flood Planning** provides technical guidelines

and submittal requirements for each scope item and additional technical guidance regarding population estimates, hydraulic and hydrologic modeling, and benefit-cost ratio analysis, etc.

2. **Exhibit D: Data Submittal Guidelines for Regional Flood Planning** provides data submittal guidelines for regional flood planning. The TWDB will provide a single template GIS geodatabase with multiple feature classes and tables to the regional flood planning groups. Each planning group must fill the template geodatabase with relevant regional flood planning data. Exhibit D provides information regarding these data requirements.

3. **Exhibit C Tables** is an Excel worksheet that provides templates for all tables that are required to be included in the regional flood plans.

Please submit your written public comment to floodplanning@twdb.texas.gov with the subject line "Technical Guidelines Public Comment."

City of Houston & Harris County Updates

Harris County Public Health Dashboard



Harris County
Public Health
Building a Healthy Community

Harris County COVID Update

Hospital Population Trends Goal: Negative 14-day trends for COVID-19 hospital population <small>*ICU = ICU Bed *GEN = General Bed</small>	-2.58 ICU* beds/day -6.38 GEN* beds/day	Indicator Met
Hospital Usage Goal: 14-day average of COVID-19 hospital population below 15% <small>*ICU = ICU Bed *GEN = General Bed</small>	21.1% ICU* beds/day 6.03% GEN* beds/day	Indicator Not Met
New Cases: Trend Goal: 14-day trend of new COVID-19 cases is negative	+15.07 cases/day <small>14-day Average</small>	Indicator Not Met
New Cases: Total Goal: 14-day average of new cases in Harris County below 400	655 cases <small>14-day Average</small>	Indicator Not Met
Positivity Rate Goal: 14-day average of COVID-19 test positivity rate below 5%	10.5%	Indicator Not Met

District 127 Updates

Road Closure This Weekend: FM 2100



As part of the overall expansion of FM 2100 in the Crosby, Texas area, the Texas Department of Transportation will close the northbound and southbound lanes of FM 2100 between Old Atascocita Road and FM 1960 starting on **Friday, March 19 at 1 a.m. until Tuesday, March 23 at 5 a.m.**

This closure will facilitate the removal and replacement of the existing Union Pacific railroad track, as well as the placement of new planking. This work will accommodate the widening and lane assignments for the new FM 2100 roadway.

Additional road closure information will be posted [here](#).

Explore Historical Texas



Looking for something to do on Spring Break? Visit one of the many Texas Historical Sites around the state (pictured above: the San Jacinto Battleground and Monument). Be sure to visit them [safely](#)!

Contact Information

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